

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**  
**IN-PRESS COATING METHOD AND COMPOSITION**

5        A method and composition are provided for applying a single aqueous coating composition to a composite substrate during an in-press molding operation to achieve (i) improved initial whiteness in a white pigmented composition, (ii) excellent color retention / stability and (iii) excellent press release properties. The aqueous coating composition incorporates an ion  
10      exchange resin and serves as a combined sealer and topcoat finish for press molded composite substrates.